



*"People
helping people
help
themselves"*

Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr., Governor
State of Indiana

DIVISION OF DISABILITY & REHABILITATIVE SERVICES
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TO: Consumers, Providers, Case Managers, BDDS Employees

FROM: Adrienne Shields, Deputy Director
Kellie Calita, BDDS Director of Client Services

**RE: Conversion of Consumers on State Line Item Community Supports
Budgets to the Support Services Waiver**

DATE: January 9, 2009

The mission of the Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services (DDRS) is to facilitate effective partnerships which enhance the quality of life for the people we serve in the community and pursuits of their choice. With strong leadership, we remain focused on supporting those we serve and committed to effective, efficient and successful stewardship of the state's financial resources.

During these tough economic times, we must maximize the potential of every dollar so that we may serve the maximum number of people. Many times, we are able to maximize state funds by matching them with federal funds. Therefore, we are reviewing the budgets of every individual with a 100% state-funded budget.

As of July 1, 2006, the federal Social Services Block Grant (Title XX) was no longer a source of funding for day services through the Bureau of Developmental Disabilities Services (BDDS). Since then, the state has funded 100% of the BDDS programs for more than 3,300 individuals living in the community on Community Living Budgets.

We have identified 540 individuals who use the State Line Item Community Support Budget program to pay for services. These individuals could be eligible for Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Medicaid waiver services, which would qualify for Federal matching funds. As a result, efforts are being made to establish eligibility and move these individuals onto a Support Services waiver. All those eligible for Medicaid will be moved to a Support Services Waiver.



To convert State Line Item Community Supports Budgets to the Support Services waivers, BDDS District offices will be contacting individuals and providers to complete the eligibility determination process. As state and federal eligibility requirements are completed, BDDS will then refer the case to the contracting case management entity, Indiana Professional Management Group, Inc. (IPMG) to complete the Person Centered Planning and Support Plan development process.

Upon approval, individuals will enter services under the Objective Assessment System for Individual Supports (OASIS) model, with a dollar-for-dollar conversion. Because of the current \$13,500 annual limit on the Support Services waiver, some individuals may receive fewer services than they are currently receiving under State Line Item funding. In these situations, BDDS will work closely with the individuals and their service providers to review current services and determine needs.

It is our obligation as steward's of the state's resources to take this opportunity to maximize state dollars with a federal match and do so as quickly as possible. Therefore, we will manage the conversion as follows:

- **The conversion is mandatory for any individual who meets the necessary state and federal eligibility requirements.**
- Individuals who meet the eligibility requirements, but choose not to fully cooperate in the pursuit of the waiver (including obtaining Medicaid), are choosing to have their services terminated.
- Individuals who do not meet the necessary state and federal requirements may continue to be served under the Community Supports Budgets.
- Individuals cannot receive Community Support Budgets at the same time as waiver services. Therefore, Community Support Budgets must be canceled upon the start of waiver services.

The state's goal is to fully transition consumers to the waiver program no more than 60 days from the date that a slot is identified for them. We stress the importance of this conversion and we seek your support and assistance in moving consumers through this process in a timely manner.

If you have questions about this process, please contact us through the following resources:

- **Phone:** (317) 234-5222 or 1-888-527-0008
- **Email:** BDDSHelp@fssa.IN.gov
- **Listing of BDDS offices:**
http://www.in.gov/fssa/files/BDDS_District_Offices_20080929.pdf
- **Website:** www.ddrs.IN.gov

A little leveraging goes a long way. By matching state funds with existing federal funds, DDRS minimizes administrative costs, making more money available to strengthen our programs and increase our ability to serve more Hoosiers with disabilities.

Thank you.

Reference #: DDRS20090109